

# Transition Signals

## What are Transition Signals?



*Transition signals are connecting words or phrases that act like bridges between parts of your writing. They link your sentences and paragraphs together smoothly so that there are no abrupt jumps or breaks between ideas.*

Transition signals act like signposts to indicate to the reader the order and flow of your writing and ideas. They strengthen the internal cohesion of your writing. Using transitions makes it easier for the reader to follow your ideas. They help carry over a thought from one sentence to another, from one paragraph to another, or from one idea to another.

There are several types of transition signals. Some lead your reader forward and imply the building of an idea or thought, while others make your reader compare ideas or draw conclusions from the preceding thoughts.

## Examples (Transitions are underlined!)

During the early twentieth century, in addition to industrialisation, urban growth and technological development, Australian society was experiencing a transformation of the domestic ideal. At this time, families were subject to an increasing array of government and 'professional' programs and advice aiming to manage and regulate family life. Some of these programs were designed to counter social change, others were designed to engineer them; but they each heralded a growing expert encroachment into the private sphere. Intervention and influence took three forms. Firstly, techniques designed to maximise efficiency were introduced into the home and scientific principles were applied to its design. In addition, housework and parenting methods were scrutinised and subject to unprecedented standards. Secondly, all aspects of reproduction attracted increasing intervention from government and the medical profession. Thirdly, state, professional and philanthropic groups began to usurp the parental role within the family through instruction and policy. Ultimately, the development of 'modern' social ideals brought regulation, intervention and ever-increasing unrealistic standards.

The following words and phrases can be used to indicate transitions and to cue your reader about how ideas are logically connected in your writing.

### ● To indicate sequence or order

first, second, third	next, last, finally	first of all	next, before, after
meanwhile	followed by	at this point	previously, subsequently
simultaneously	concurrently	and then	at this time

### ● To introduce an example

for example	for instance	in this case	on this occasion
take the case of	to demonstrate	to illustrate	

● To logically divide an idea	first, second, third	first, next, finally		
● To indicate time	immediately	thereafter	formerly	previously
	finally,	then, later	soon	during
	after a few hours	at that time	prior to	at this point
	before, after			
● To compare	similarly	likewise	whereas	similar to
	like, just like	conversely	by comparison	while
	balanced against			
● To contrast	in contrast	on the contrary	however	on the other hand
	a different view is	differing from	unlike	balanced against
● To introduce an additional idea	in addition	besides	also	It could also be said
	another	furthermore	moreover	further
	nor	and then	finally	additionally
● To introduce an opposite idea or show exception	however	on the other hand	instead	in contrast
	whereas	nevertheless	despite	even though
	while	one could also say	in spite of	alternatively
● To give an example	for example	for instance	in this case	to demonstrate
	take the case of	to illustrate		
● To summarise or conclude	in brief	on the whole	summing up	therefore
	in other words	thus	consequently	as a result
	in summary	in conclusion	to summarise	to conclude
	as shown	hence	ultimately	finally